

Minuteman

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Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.

May 2003

94th AW units undergo reorganization

By Senior Airman Micky Cordiviola
Public Affairs

The season is not the only thing changing around the 94th Airlift Wing. During the April UTA, formal command ceremonies were conducted resulting in reorganization of the 94th Airlift Wing.

Some of the changes included the deactivation of the 94th Logistics Support Squadron and the activation of two new squadrons and one new flight. Activations include the 94th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 94th Logistics Readiness Squadron and the 94th Maintenance Operations Flight.

In 2000, the decision was made by the Air Force Chief of Staff to conduct a test of the combat wing reorganization structure.

"This is an Air Force wide initiative," said Maj. Gregory D. Halen, 94th Maintenance Group, executive officer. "This reorganization accomplishes two very important tasks by enabling people to actually focus on what their war fighting roles are, especially the operators and the maintenance personnel. It also reduces the footprint or number of people you need to take to a forward operating location."

The former logistics group is now known as the 94th Maintenance Group. Under the group, the next tier is broken up into three primary units: maintenance squadron, aircraft maintenance squadron, and maintenance operations flight.

"Reorganization moved base supply, fuels and contracting from the logistics



Photo by Don Peek

Brig. Gen. William Kane, 94th Airlift Wing commander, addresses the crowd during the wing commander's call.

group to the 94th Mission Support Group," said Col. Fred Alley, 94th Maintenance Group commander. "What remains is a newly formed maintenance group, which is lean and focused on direct support of the flying mission."

Under the maintenance group, the maintenance squadron handles everything that is not directly on the aircraft itself. This includes the back shops. The aircraft maintenance squadron covers the flight line personnel that include crew chiefs, expeditors, and pro supers. The new squadron is commanded by Maj. Paul Meyer. The third unit under the group is the maintenance operations flight.

This flight is primarily involved with maintenance support, flight scheduling and

maintenance control.

Another major part of the reorganization impacts the support group. It is now redesignated the 94th Mission Support Group and supports the newly created logistics readiness squadron. The 94th LRS is now composed of several areas: transportation, supply, wing plans and contracting.

Also, added to the mission support group from the 94th Operations Group is the 80th Aerial Port Squadron.

"This reorganization process enables each specific group to concentrate on their area of training and expertise," said Col. Curtis Williams, 94th Mission Support Group commander. "This will produce a better flying and fighting machine."

94th Airlift Wing
Brig. Gen. William Kane

94th Operations Group
Col. Heath Nuckolls
700th Airlift Squadron
Lt. Col. Dan Kornacki
94th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Lt. Col. Evelyn Byars
94th Operations Support Flight
Lt. Col. Stan Gibson
94th Airlift Control Flight
Lt. Col. Reed Sheridan

94th Maintenance Group
Col. Frederick Alley
94th Maintenance Squadron
Maj. Paul Weimer
94th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Maj. Paul Meyer
94th Maintenance Operation Flight
Maj. Neil Lambert

94th Mission Support Group
Col. Curtis Williams
94th Mission Support Squadron
Maj. Cheryl Wayne
94th Security Forces Squadron
TBD
94th Logistic Readiness Squadron
Maj. Detlef Klann
94th Civil Engineer Squadron
Lt. Col. Stephen West
94th Services Squadron
Maj. Charles Saunders
80th Aerial Port Squadron
Maj. Marshall Irvin
94th Communications Flight
Maj. Mike McCully

94th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
Col. William Watkins

Wing names quarterly award winners

By Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish
Public Affairs

The 94th Airlift Wing recently announced the winners of the quarterly awards competition. The 94th Security Forces Squadron continued its excellence, capturing two of the three awards.

Master Sgt. David A. Metroka, a guidance and control systems craftsman with the 94th Maintenance Squadron was named Outstanding Senior NCO of the Quarter for the 94th Airlift Wing. Metroka has been instrumental in the ongoing upgrade to the new digital flight data recorder systems on the C-130.

He also fitted vehicles of the Office of Special

Investigations with essential emergency lighting and sirens during recent Presidential and VIP visits. Metroka has reduced cost and duplication in the bench stock system within the Avionics Flight.

Staff Sgt. Rohn L. Barnhill, a fire team member and combat arms personnel with the 94th Security Forces Squadron, was named Outstanding Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter for the 94th Airlift Wing.

Barnhill was nominated for his commitment to mission accomplishment. During his recent deployment to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, Barnhill provided runway denial and airtight security. He has also worked with Joint Counter Intelligence and Office of Special Investigations while serving in Afghanistan.

Senior Airman Jodey S. Powell, a fire team member from the 94th Security Forces Squadron, is the recipient of the Outstanding Airman of the Quarter award. Powell was nominated for his outstanding attitude, appearance and overall motivation.

Powell has demonstrated his superior vigilance and performance over the quarter.

After being notified of a suspicious package in building 440, Powell evacuated the building, secured the perimeter and escorted explosive ordnance disposal personnel to the unidentified package.

Powell has also volunteered to participate in security details. During the recent Presidential visit, Powell worked in the motorcade.

Congress shows increased interest in reserve issues

WASHINGTON - April 8 - Congress has increased its focus on helping the reserve components since more than 200,000 members of the National Guard and Reserve have been mobilized for the war on terrorism.

With newly introduced bills to enhance reservists' benefits, along with the existing House Guard and Reserve Caucus and newly formed Senate Reserve Caucus, reserve issues have come to the forefront in Congress.

To enhance congressional efforts, Air Force Reserve Command has streamlined its process to provide timely, accurate and consistent information by offering reservists numerous pathways to surface issues and ideas.

Besides submitting initiatives through their chain of

command, reservists can propose ideas through the Air Force Reserve Advisory Board and the Office of Air Force Reserve's Policy Integration Directorate in the Pentagon.

The AFRAB accepts any issue or initiative, from addressing existing situations to considering the most creative idea, allowing each reservist to be a catalyst to change.

The policy integration directorate, which goes by the designation REI, deals with all legislative issues for the command at the Air Staff level. The directorate recently expanded AFRC's Congressional Outreach program, which ensures congressional members are aware of the Air Force Reserve and its significant contributions.

REI staffers set up visits for AFRC Commander Lt.

Gen. James E. Sherrard III and wing commanders with their congressional members, provide informative briefings to professional and personal staffs of congressional members and their committees, and answer questions posed by U.S. senators and representatives.

"All reservists should be aware that their voice matters because congressional members are interested in what their constituents have to say," said Wayne Gracie, director of REI. "Our goal is to facilitate communication between Air Force reservists and Congress. We have a great story to tell."

More information about REI is available on its Web site at <http://www.re.hq.af.mil/rei>. (AFRC News Service)

Readiness, reconstitution concerns loom large for military

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Military readiness may crumble if Congress does not approve additional funding soon, the Joint Staff director of operations told senators April 9.

"Our previous wartime experiences have proven that readiness is a fragile commodity," Lt. Gen. Norman A. Schwartz told members of the Senate Armed Services subcommittee on readiness. "When extended in combat operations, it is important to reestablish readiness levels or they can quickly erode further."

Conducting major combat operations disrupts normal training routines, which affects the readiness of the overall force, the general said.

As a result, a period of reconstitution will be required following combat operations in Iraq.

According to Schwartz, the current budget and the president's proposed fiscal 2004 budget support normal readiness programs, but fall short of paying for extended contingency operations.

To pay for Operation Iraqi Freedom and other operations, the military services have used funds originally allocated for the third and fourth quarters of the fiscal budget. Air Force leaders have testified before both houses of Congress that the service will be broke by summer.

"Our services simply cannot absorb the cost of OIF, the global war on terror and other ongoing operations without the supplemental budget," he said. "Timely approval of supplemental funding is absolutely critical to continued preparedness of our joint force."

As Department of Defense officials continue to push for additional funding, Air Force leaders are focusing their attention on redeploying, resting and retraining

its warfighters.

"Our asymmetric edge is in our people, training and technology," said Maj. Gen. Randal M. Schmidt, assistant to the deputy chief of staff for air and space operations, during the April 9 testimony. "Every day our Air Force continues to pursue proper readiness in several key areas to present a balanced force."

To maintain its readiness, Schmidt said the Air Force has to balance national security challenges against available resources.

"The devil is in the details," he said of the reconstitution effort.

Among the chief concerns for Air Force readiness planners are "reloading the guns, fixing training potholes and getting the battle rhythm back," the general said.

"One of the keys before you play (the next) big game is to get your primary players back in shape and reestablish your bench," Schmidt said. "The Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve are on mobilization orders now, and the Air Force uses large (numbers) of Guard and Reserve."

Schmidt said personnel actions such as stop-loss and demobilization are key to re-establishing the "battle rhythm."

"We know the amount of forces that can be (deployed) at any time sustaining '24/7' indefinitely," he said. "We also know that if we go above that level, we go into decline mode as far as readiness ... and at certain levels we begin to break."

Recent successes in combat operations over Iraq have demonstrated the effectiveness of service and joint training exercises, Schmidt said. He believes that readiness will only be maintained by returning to normal training routines as soon as possible.

"Habit patterns, those reflexes we develop in a training environment, need to be automatic in a combat environment," he said.

A load of cookies...



Photo By Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish

Senior Airman Bambi Tilley, 80th Aerial Port Squadron stretches to get a harness over a pallet of Girl Scout cookies. Seven thousand boxes of cookies arrived at Dobbins in April. The cookies were loaded by 80th APS and will be shipped to U.S. troops serving overseas.

National Prayer Breakfast held at Dobbins



Lt. Col. (Ch) Allen Withers, 22nd Air Force command chaplain, addresses the audience

By Master Sgt. Stan Coleman
Public Affairs

The focus of the 2003 National Prayer Breakfast message delivered at Dobbins ARB by Chaplain Lt. Col. Allen Withers, 22nd Air Force Command Chaplain, was the importance of prayer.

"I once read a statement that said no Christian is greater than his or her prayer life," said Withers, who is a former chaplain for the 94th Airlift Wing. "I've come to griping realization that prayer is probably one of the greatest contributions we can make to advance God's kingdom.

Withers' message on prayer presented several points regarding prayer.

"Let's look at the moment on some basic training regarding prayer. The military never required anything of us until we've been trained. Yet we have very little training with one of the most wonderful spiritual exercises of our lives--prayer.

"Prayer should come as natural for us as breathing," said Withers. "Our posture during prayer is not important. Traditionally we bow our heads and close our eyes to shut out distractions. Jesus lifted his head and held his hands toward heaven.

"Many different postures are recorded in the Bible--all of them were acceptable," said Withers. Some bow on their knees when they pray. It was Daniel's practice to kneel when he prayed. King David sat when he talked to God. Abraham stood when he interceded for others."

According to Withers, "prayer is not a posture of the

body, it's a posture of the heart.

"It's easier to bow the knees than it is to bow the heart in submission to God," he said.

"ACTS, A-C-T-S, like the book of Acts help keep prayer on track, he said. "A is for adoration--thanking the Lord for who he is, what he's done and his grace. "C is for confession, the Lord knows my sins and shortcomings, and I pray for his forgiveness. The T is for thanksgiving.

"I remember my Sunday school teacher giving me this example when I was 10 years old. He said, 'boys when you go to the Lord and pray don't be like little Jimmy saying Lord this is Jimmy, gimme, gimme, gimme.'

"He said take some time to love the Lord and appreciate what he's done for you. I've never forgotten that," said Withers.

"The S is for supplication. That's when we pray for one another," he said. "So ACTS is admiration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication. God is constantly speaking to bring me back to these fundamentals.

"We've been blessed by countless prayers of millions of Americans as well as other believers throughout the world," said Withers. "Tremendous challenges await this nation, our nation at war. And there will be hardships ahead. Faith will not make the path easy, but it will give us strength."

A certificate of appreciation was presented to Withers by Brig. Gen. William Kane, 94th AW commander.

Chief's Group select "Sharp Troop" recipient

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Ray Figg, 94th Security Forces Squadron security craftsman, has been selected as the first recipient of the Dobbins Chiefs Group Sharp Troop Award.

Intended for technical sergeants and below the award consists of a coin and certificate that represents outstanding achievements and professionalism by junior enlisted forces at Dobbins Air Reserve Base.

Individual chiefs, who recognize the excellent service of a junior-enlisted member, select the Sharp Troop Award recipients.

One stipulation with the award is that the enlisted member cannot be a member of the awarding chief's unit.

Figg was selected for contributions to base security, professional demeanor, and the role he plays as a law enforcement officer in Dalton, Ga.

From training assignments in Spain, special assignments in Atlanta and base protection to drug busts and saving a child's life, he has made a difference according to Chief Master Sgt. James Roshak, Transportation Proficiency



Tech. Sgt. Ray Figg, 94th Security forces Squadron is presented his award by Chief Master Sgt. James Roshak, Transportation Proficiency Center superintendent (left) and James Chadwick, Chief, Dalton Ga. Police Department.

Center superintendent, who selected Figg for the first award.

"Our goal is to promote a team framework," said Roshak. "When we see someone like sergeant Figg performing in an extraordinary manner that is good

for the base, our people, and the Air Force, we want to recognize them and the Sharp Troop Award does that." Roshak, the chief with the most time in grade at Dobbins, was selected by his fellow chiefs to present the first award.

Website has latest update on Iraqi conflict

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) —

The Air Force has a special Operation Iraqi Freedom web site highlighting the service news and photos from forward-deployed locations covering Air Force support of the war in Iraq.

This site is in addition to daily Air Force-wide news featured at www.af.mil.

"We want to give people one easy access point to learn everything the Air Force is doing regarding Operation Iraqi Freedom," said Master Sgt. Jim Greeley, chief of news technology at the Air Force News Agency here.

Visitors will find photography, videos, background information, quick facts, maps and special reports on the page.

Access to the site is available by clicking on the Operation Iraqi Freedom button on the news page or by going directly to <http://www.af.mil/news/opscenter/index.shtml>.

Family Support there for troops



By Tech. Sgt. Dianne Yearby
94th Airlift Wing
Family Readiness technician

Troop support. We hear a lot about it and we talk a lot about it in the Family Support Center. Our call rate from families has increased significantly in the past few months. Currently, we are dealing with two types of support issues in our office: activated reservists and their families and concerned citizens.

Our first and foremost concern is that of supporting our deployed reservists and their families. The second is our response to the patriotic spirit pouring in from people who want to help military members during our war with Iraq.

If you ask deployed reservists, 'what can we do to support you?' Their overwhelming responses are that they want us to support the families they left behind. From our experiences with the Gulf War

and other deployments since, we've learned a lot about how to do just that.

The important thing to remember is that each of us has the ability to manage most situations. Like our reservists, the families are made up of high-functioning, progressive, computer savvy and professional people.

Family Support helps by reminding family members and loved ones that they have the skills to get through tough times. We help them to remember their internal and other resources. Most of their support is already in place, like churches, friends and community organizations.

Our goal is to make families more aware of their natural support. And when there isn't natural support, that's when we get involved to refer them to organizations made up of people who want to do something to make life better or a little easier for our troops.

Additionally there are a many web sites and service organizations to which we can direct family members for assistance. Although our mission is to support families, we are careful that we don't set up a dependency.

We also serve as a safety net. While we can't wrap our arms around hundreds of families members, we're not going to let anyone fall through. If their normal support channels aren't effective, we can suggest other types of support such as financial or emotional counseling referrals to community or Air Force organizations.

The second type of support we handle is that from a supportive community wanting to help do something for our troops. Believe it or not, the system is bogged down with donated tangible

goods. The USO (United Services Organization) and the Veterans Administration are working hard at processing what they have. It's difficult to move all of the donated goods to where our troops are, plus force protection is an issue.

What we recommend to our community supporters is that they provide items to private relief organizations that can in turn distribute the items. We are unable to accept goods or monetary donations to pass to reservists or family members due to Air Force policy. What we can accept is time. We are always looking for volunteers in our office.

If citizens want to send items to Armed Forces members, they have to be mailed directly to that member. We don't provide addresses.

We also suggest that community organizations and churches focus their efforts on those local families whom they know are directly affected by deployments and activations. Being able to see the immediate and direct affects of your efforts on a fellow community member can be more gratifying than perhaps never knowing what the end result was of your support efforts.

In my job, it makes me feel good to know that our reserve families are strong and viable.

But also that when they are in need, Family Support is there to help in whatever way necessary. I hope that any call or in-person interaction with our office results in the feeling that we in Family Support really care and will do whatever we can to ensure that they have blue skies and a great Air Force day!



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SGLI Premiums going down in July

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that premiums for the Servicemembers Group Life Insurance will be reduced, handing military members a few extra dollars in their pockets each month.

Beginning in July, the cost for a \$250,000 policy — the maximum coverage — will drop from \$20 to \$16.25 monthly, a \$3.75 savings.

The Department of Veterans Affairs reports that rates for Veterans Group Life Insurance will not change.

Tom Tower, the Department of Defense's assistant director for military compensation, welcomed the reduced premiums, adding that anytime you put "more money in the pockets of military members, it's always a good result."

Premiums will also be reduced for SGLI family coverage,

with rates varying among age groups.

The largest saving will go to spouses 35 to 39 years old, whose premiums will be nearly cut in half. Military members currently pay \$13 for a \$100,000 family policy. That policy will cost \$7.50 beginning in July — a \$5.50 savings.

The reduced rates mean a military family will save an average of \$100 a year.

Tower said the reduced premiums are a result of an ongoing process to keep costs down for military members.

Today the SGLI program provides coverage of \$250,000 to active-duty people and most reservists. Coverage of \$100,000 has also been provided for spouses of participating members with free coverage of \$10,000 for dependent children. Reduced levels of coverage may also be elected.

Information about the change in SGLI premiums can be found at www.insurance.va.gov, or call the office of Servicemembers Group Life Insurance toll free at (800) 419-1473.

If you would like to have your viewpoint printed in the *Minuteman* please send your submission to 94aw.pa@dobbins.af.mil. All entries will be edited for grammar, content and style.

DOD's leaders thank military for heroism, courage

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld thanked the men and women of the department for their service in the campaign in Iraq, but said much still remains to be done.

Rumsfeld and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Air Force Gen. Richard Myers spoke to Pentagon employees during a Town Hall meeting today. The meeting was beamed to American service members around the world.

"What you ... have done in the last month has been absolutely magnificent," Myers said. "Your courage, your talent, your leadership have given us - up to this point - a tremendous combat victory."

The progress in the war to overthrow Saddam Hussein, "is a credit to the men and women in uniform who are serving on the front lines in the theater," Rumsfeld said.

"What's happened is amazing for the speed with which it was executed," the secretary said. He noted that speed was responsible for reducing both coalition and Iraqi casualties. It was responsible for stopping the Iraqi regime from firing missiles at its neighbors. It was responsible for allowing the coalition to secure the Iraqi oil fields.

The Iraqi infrastructure is largely intact, he said, and there have not been massive civilian casualties. "This was not just good luck," Rumsfeld said. "This was the result of very careful planning by extraordinary people in the region, at Central Command in Tampa (Fla.) and here in the department. But above all, what has made it possible is the same thing that has made success possible in other wars: the courage and heroism of the men and women in uniform."

"Such heroics are the daily work of men and women in uniform who serve not only in Iraq, but in Afghanistan and so many places across the globe, defending the American people."

The secretary said because of the presence of reporters embedded with units, now the American people



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard B. Myers, answers a question from the audience of military and Department of Defense civilian employees at a town hall style meeting in the Pentagon on April 17. Myers and Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld thanked the Pentagon audience for their contribution to Operation Iraqi Freedom in their opening remarks and then took questions. (DOD photo by R.D. Ward.)

have an idea of the professionalism and heroism of their military. Rumsfeld said the outcome of the embedding process was a "roll of the dice" during first discussions of the idea.

"But the outcome is pretty clear," he said. "There is no question but that the American people were able to see slices of what took place. They could see accurate presentations and representations and written accounts of what the men and women in uniform were doing."

Rumsfeld said that the embedding process has a side benefit. "There's now a new generation of journalists who have had a chance to see what kind of people volunteer to put their lives at risk. And that's a good thing."

Rumsfeld and Myers took questions from the audience on a variety of subjects.

Transformation was one hot topic. Rumsfeld said

the U.S. Joint Forces Command is working with U.S. Central Command to capture the lessons learned from Iraq. "If you think about it, what took place in Afghanistan significantly informed what took place in Iraq," he said.

The U.S. military will take the good lessons and apply them immediately. For example, Rumsfeld said he was "sure" and "positive" that out of this we're going to end up finding ways to reduce friendly fire casualties."

The secretary also said that some aspects of the war confirmed other transformational thoughts. He has directed the chairman to examine ways to reconfigure active, Guard and reserve manning in areas like civil affairs. He said much of that capability is in the reserve components. Some of that capability needs to shift to the active force, he noted, "or else you're going to call people up every other year, which isn't really what they sign up for."

Myers said he wished he could say that the war is winding down. "But I can't. ... A lot more work remains in Iraq and around the world. We still have troops in Afghanistan facing danger every day, and in other countries as we fight this war on terrorism."

Looking at Iraq's neighbor, Myers said Syria needs to be more cooperative. "You want people in the neighborhood to be helpful," he said. "And to be helpful you can't be imposing an external influence, trying to work your own agenda."

Myers said that Syria is definitely harboring some of the families of Saddam's senior leaders and possibly some leaders themselves. He said Syria has sent in jihadists to fight against the U.S.-led coalition and sent equipment in for Iraqi forces. "That sort of behavior simply has to stop," he said.

Myers said there are still those who hate America and the values it stands for. Those enemies will use terrorism to attack America and Americans, he observed.

"So, for those of you still out there still wearing your Kevlar, still aboard ships — for that matter, for us here at home - I think our challenge is this: We have to always be prepared, we've got to stay true to the values that got us to this point and ... we've got to keep our guard up."

Changes in TRICARE target helping reservists, families

WASHINGTON - March 24 - Families of reservists mobilized for more than 30 consecutive days may now opt for the military's best form of healthcare insurance.

In a pending change, families who live with their military sponsors at the time of their mobilization will be eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote when the mobilized reservists deploy outside the area.

"It's important that we take care of the families of our reserve component members," said Thomas F. Hall, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs. "We want to ensure that our mobilized National Guard and Reserve members aren't worried about who's caring for their families while they're gone, and to return them to families whose health care needs have been met by the military health system."

Previously, reservists had to be placed on

military orders for 179 days or more for their families to get TRICARE Prime, the most advanced form and lowest cost healthcare insurance, which includes preventive health care, no deductibles, no enrollment fees and no cost-shares.

If reservists were activated for less than 179 days, their families were automatically covered under TRICARE Standard or TRICARE Extra without having to send enrollment forms to TRICARE.

Families lose their eligibility for TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Prime Remote for Active-Duty Family Members coverage when reservists deploy outside the immediate area, so officials in the TRICARE Management Activity are working to implement the change. In the future, families will still have to "reside with" the reservists at the time of mobilization to qualify for TRICARE Prime Remote for

Active-Duty Family Member coverage, which allows them to obtain medical care 50 miles or more from a military medical treatment facility. TRICARE Prime Remote was originally designed to provide medical care for recruiters and their families if they live and work outside a military medical treatment facility area.

Hall and Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, announced the policy changes March 12. The change in qualifying days for TRICARE Prime took effect March 10.

Congress recognized the concerns of reservists and their families, so it mandated the changes in the fiscal year 2003 National Defense Authorization Act.

"These are significant changes that open the door to numerous health services at the lowest possible cost that were previously unavailable to reserve component families in remote areas," said Lt. Col.

Alexander Alex, associate administrator for the command surgeon at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command.

To qualify for TRICARE benefits, Guard and Reserve sponsors need to verify the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System information for themselves and their family members is accurate and up-to-date. They are encouraged to contact DEERS at the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office toll free at (800) 538-9552. Sponsors and family members may also update their addresses in DEERS on the TRICARE Web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil> under "DEERS."

A list of frequently asked questions about benefits for reservists and their families can be found on the TRICARE Web site under "reserve," and fact sheets are available under "factsheets." (AFRC News Service)

Airfield Ops troop relives Middle East experience

Base ops airman supported operations in Qatar and Uzbekistan

By Senior Airman Reid Hanna
Public Affairs

Another average day slipped by. Work, again, was the usual toil. Nyota Baker is a Flight Data Specialist both for the 94th Operations Group as a reservist and with Griffin Services as a civilian here.

She is often working seven days a week at airfield operations. Her work place is familiar, safe, almost like home. Baker had no warning of what was coming. The order simply arrived. She was going to Uzbekistan.

Baker said she fell into a state of shock that day.

"I went straight to my family and told them,"

Baker said. "Then we all began to cry."

When April 10 arrived, she was very afraid to leave her home in Riverdale, Ga. Her shock still persisted until she boarded the 747. Three other reservists from Dobbins were on the same flight to Qatar. Baker said it took time to become aware of all that was happening.

"I don't remember the flight, because it went so quickly," Baker said. "I just didn't think I was going to come back."

When she arrived, she went straight to work, she said. Baker worked for three weeks in Qatar and was

then sent to Uzbekistan. She was getting closer to danger.

She lived in one of many tents packed together into a "Tent City." The large olive green tent hung over an equally large wooden foundation. Eight cots served as beds in her new home. A lone, bare light bulb hung from the ceiling. It was the only evidence of electricity, she said. The wind was so strong that the tent flaps popped and snapped all night.

Daily temperature topped around 115 degrees and dropped so low that sweaters had to be worn, said Baker. Hot food was served for breakfast and dinner, but she ate food stuffed into heavy plastic packages, called Meals Ready to Eat, for lunch.

Baker's first trip out of the United States was an incredible experience, she said. She learned how to adapt to harsh conditions; she learned how to drive manual transmission vehicles; and she learned to work with people from another culture.

"I didn't know the people there lived in such poverty," Baker said.

Baker learned other realities during her deployment. She said she learned how easily misunderstandings occur with two different cultures that speak two different languages. She saw the quality of life in a foreign land. She learned how another culture lived and she said this left her with one predominant feeling.

Baker said, "Most of all, I am thankful for being American."



Photo by Don Peek

Nyota Baker on duty at airfield operations.

First sergeant selected to attend Harvard Executive Leadership Fellows Program

Compiled by Public Affairs

Calvin Stevens, a 28-year employee with the U. S. General Services Administration (GSA), Atlanta, Ga., and First Sergeant with the 94th Civil Engineer Squadron, has been selected to attend the Senior Executive Leadership Fellows Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Boston, Mass.

This program is open to all federal and military personnel in grades of GS-14 and 15. Stevens four-week study begins on June 8 and runs to July 2. "I am honored to be selected to attend this outstanding program", Calvin said. "Of all of the federal and military personnel eligible to attend, I was ultimately selected to attend this prestigious university."

Stevens, currently serving as Field Operations Manager for the GSA Federal Supply Service, Marketing Division, is responsible for managing and leading a team of three GS-13, Lead Marketing Specialists and eleven, GS-12 Marketing Specialists and for administrating over 700 supply and over 2,400 multiple

award schedule contracts in five states.

Calvin received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Davenport University, where he majored in Business Management. He has completed numerous government-sponsored leadership courses over the past 28 years, including the completion of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School's Executive Potential Program. A 12-month program of intensive study for high performing GS-13s and 14s.

Stevens also completed studies at George Washington, Fort Valley State and Georgia State Universities.

Calvin's responsibility as Supervisory Marketing Specialist, involves administrating, overseeing and managing all aspects of the Regional Marketing Program and assisting in the Quality Assurance Program for supply and Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) contracts.

This additional responsibility for the Quality Assurance Program involves insuring compliance with all terms and conditions of the contract, including the monitoring and administering of delegat-

A family affair



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish

Tech. Sgt. Sylvia Knight of the 94th Mission Support Squadron, 94th Airlift Wing is reenlisted by her husband Capt. Antoine Knight of the U.S. Army Reserve Command at Fort McPherson.

ed contracts for the Industrial Funding Fee under the MAS Program. His area of control includes the States of Florida and Georgia, including the panhandles of Alabama, Florida and Mississippi. He is responsible for managing an estimated budget of \$740,000.

Calvin's previous positions within FSS include: Chief, Quality Assurance

Branch; Chief, Contract Administration Branch; Division Director, Travel and Transportation Management Division; and Customer Service Director, Marketing Division.

Calvin is married to Eleanor Jones Stevens, where they are the proud parents of three grown children and three grandchildren. They reside in Decatur, GA.

Services auction

Services is hosting an auction June 7. This is the first auction since 2000 and includes lots of great stuff, such as five-piece matching bedroom suites, living room suites, TV/VCR combinations, jet skis, kitchen equipment and much more. The auction starts at 4 p.m. You can view items between noon and 2 p.m. at a location to be announced.

Mother's Day buffet

Services is hosting its annual Mother's Day buffet May 11. Serving times are from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The price is \$14.95 for club members and \$16.95 for nonmembers. The menu includes hand-carved roast beef, honey-baked ham, chicken supreme in a delicate white wine sauce, smoked salmon, sweet potato soufflé, creamed potatoes and a variety of vegetables, gourmet salads and desserts.

Members only dining at the club

The Dobbins Consolidated Club recently introduced members only dining. The prices reflect club member discounts. The schedule for members only dining this quarter is: **May 2** - Southern catfish buffet \$10.95, All-u-Care-to-Eat, **June 6** - Filet mignon at \$8.95.

Air Force to award scholarships to club members totaling \$25,000

For the seventh consecutive year, Air Force club membership is helping members and their families com-

bat the cost of higher education. Six individuals will be selected to receive a combined total of \$25,000 in scholarship money in the Air Force Club Membership Scholarship Program. For rules and eligibility, call Julie McKinney at 678-655-5716 or Missy Bozeman at 678-655-4975. All applications are due to the Chief of Services by July 15. First USA MasterCard and Coca-Cola sponsor the scholarship program. The sponsorship doesn't imply federal endorsement of the sponsors.

Limited access ID cards available

Dobbins ARB and the Dobbins Consolidated Club are offering limited access ID cards to retired Lockheed employees who are club members. To receive the card, you must complete DARB Form 5. You can mail this information to Dobbins Services, 1492 First Street, Bldg. 922, Room 216, Dobbins ARB, GA 30069-5010 or fax the information to 678-655-3881, or e-mail it to emmilla.bozeman@dobbins.af.mil. When your form is ready for pick up at the Pass and ID trailer, you will receive a phone call at the number you provide. Pass and ID hours are 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Passes are valid for one year after the issue date and are valid only during force protection conditions Alpha and Bravo.

Deep sea fishing trip

Come and enjoy the deep, blue sea during the day and explore beautiful Old Town Charleston, S.C., by night. The excursion departs from the Rental Center, bldg. 558, on June 13 at 10 a.m. and returns at approximately 4 p.m. on June 15. Transportation, fishing and lodging costs only \$150 per person.

A minimum of 12 participants are needed to conduct the excursion. Sign ups for this high-sea adventure start May 19.

Health lectures for May and June

The Dobbins ARB Fitness Program is offering biweekly lectures on health and wellness topics at the Lakeside facility. These talks include tips on healthy eating habits, workout routines and emotional health. Lectures will be held on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lectures include:

May 7-Back and Knee Pain/Injury Prevention
May 21- Exercise Program Design/Supplements
June 11-Stress Management/Time Management
June 25-Health Topics Concerning your Teenager

Honor Guard looking for members

The 94th Airlift Wing Honor Guard is looking to increase participation. If interested, contact Master Sgt. Denise White at 678-655-5273 or Master Sgt. Sandra Bowens at 678-655-5146.

Memorial Day commemorated at Marietta National Cemetery

For more than a half a century, the National Memorial Day Association of Georgia and the Avenue of Flags, Inc. has presented a unique Memorial Day commemoration on the grounds of the Marietta National Cemetery, one of only two national cemeteries in the state. This year, Medal of Honor recipient Gen. Raymond Davis will speak. The commemoration is being held in honor of the Jewish War Veterans and the Army Ground forces Band from Fort McPherson will perform live. On May 26 at noon, hundreds of Boy

Scouts from throughout the metro Atlanta area will be at the cemetery placing American flags on all of the graves, creating a spectacular display honoring our brave veterans. For more information, contact Thornton Kennedy at 404 256-3100.

Patriotic Pets

The mission of Patriotic Pets is to help deploying servicemembers find a temporary home for their pet(s). The program allows people to arrange for a guardian home while they have the time to meet, screen and select the best situation possible for their beloved pet. Once they select a guardian home, they will be on stand-by for 90 days (if that time passes, you may renew). Your selected guardian agrees to be there, ready and waiting to take your pet in the event that you are called to duty. Patriotic Pets also provides checklists and contracts for use in securing your pet's ideal temporary home. Download the application from www.patrioticpets.org or call 404-879-1053 and request a Military Owner Application. Once applications are received, they are matched up with potential guardians. Notification will be given and the information needed to contact the potential guardians. Once a guardian is selected, let Patriotic Pets know so they can put names on the success list.

Promotions

To Senior Master Sergeant
D'undra S. Royall
Emily C. Samfield
Robert L. Walter, Jr.
Kenneth D. Ward

To Master Sergeant
Ginger K. Hastings

Newly assigned

Maj. Marshall S. Irvin, Jr.
2nd Lt. Cynthia M. Washington
Senior Master Sgt. Jason M. Velasquez
Master Sgt. Dawn Y. Griffin
Tech. Sgt. Catherine F. Nolan
Staff Sgt. Jhoann Benson
Staff Sgt. Jerry A. Booker, III
Staff Sgt. David G. Contreras
Staff Sgt. Jason P. Preston
Senior Airman Javonne M. Barnwell
Senior Airman James K. Chambers
Senior Airman Michaellel Z. Darling
Senior Airman Ladonna A. Smith
Senior Airman Edward Pieter Van Thiel
Senior Airman Dana S. Wilson-Maldonado
Airman 1st Class Donald J. Browney, III
Airman Basic Genesis Butler

Officials cancel 2003 Sports, Training Camps

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) — In view of world events, ops tempo, and Stop-Loss measures, Air Force officials are canceling the 2003 Air Force sports and training camps program.

Officials will re-evaluate this decision in 90 days, depending on world events.

This difficult decision was made by the Air Force fitness and sports staff as well as Air Force senior leadership, according to officials at Air Force Services Agency headquarters.

The following 2003 events are canceled: Armed Forces Women's Soccer Championship, Armed Force Men's Soccer Championship, Armed Forces Triathlon Championship, Armed Forces Taekwondo Invitational and U.S. Racquetball Association's National Championship.

Wrestling and women's basketball training camps and events currently in session will continue through final competition.

The Air Force fitness and sports staff will not accept applications for specialized training for sports listed on the 2003 Air Force Sports Calendar.

Questions can be directed to Steve Brown or Maj. Mason Pigue at Steve.Brown@agency.afsv.af.mil and Mason.Pigue@agency.afsv.af.mil, respectively, or call DSN 487-7021 or commercial 210-652-7021.

Dobbins Inn captures best in command honors

By Senior Airman Reid Hanna
Public Affairs

The Air Force Reserve Command recently awarded the Dobbins Inn staff the title of Innkeepers of the Year. All reserve bases compete, that's no small award, but the Dobbins Inn staff has their eyes set on the grand prize.

Dobbins Inn experienced many changes over the years. With the exception of current improvements, every facility has been refurbished. Grounds upkeep is exceptional. New guest services have been added.

These are a few of the things the AFRC innkeeper evaluation team uses to determine a winner. Alice Fields, the Dobbins Inn Lodging Manager, said the Dobbins staff convinced the innkeeper evaluation team that they are winners.

"Without Team Dobbins, we

would have never won the award," said Fields.

Fields has been with 94th Mission Support Group for 24 years. She is pleased with the recent honor, however, now the major command competition begins for Dobbins.

The MAJCOM competition will be tough. No reserve command has ever won. Major commands can give much more to their services units and employees. Fields believes that none of the competition has a staff like Team Dobbins.

"We have the best team in the Air Force," Fields said.

The MAJCOM evaluation team will soon visit Dobbins Air Reserve Base. Dobbins will greet them with an ice breaker celebration. The event will take place at the lake, if weather permits.



Photo by Don Peek

The Dobbins Inn team will now compete for Air Force Honors.

Intel duo win AETC honors



Photo by Don Peek

Maj. Karen Toriello-Fite and Senior Master Sgt. Tresa Hudgins will now compete at the Air Force level.

By Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish
Public Affairs

Being the best in the Air Force Reserve is a dual responsibility for the 94th Intelligence Office as the commander and superintendent were named the Air Education and Training Command's 2002 Outstanding Air Reserve Component Intelligence Officer and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

The awards for Maj. Karen A. Toriello-Fite, 94th Intelligence Officer and superintendent Senior Master Sgt. Tresa Hudgins will move up to compete at Air Force level.

Hudgins says the awards are indica-

tive of the teamwork and motivation that is so common in the intelligence world.

"It says that because we are a team, we can work well together and get things accomplished," said Hudgins. "Maj. Fite is a great leader and motivator and I hope the personnel I supervise can say the same about me."

According to Brig. Gen. William Kane, Commander, 94th Airlift Wing, the award represents just one more example of the high quality of professionalism within the wing.

"It makes me very proud to know that our Intelligence Office is of the stature to be the best in the AETC," said Kane.

UTA Schedule

S A T U R D A Y	Activity	Time	Location	S U N D A Y	Activity	Time	Location
	Wing element staff mtg	7:30-8 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202		Open Ranks	6:45-7:30 a.m.	Unit assigned
	CDC study hall	7:30-10 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304		M16 rifle AFQC	8 a.m.	Combat Arms range
	SFS Training	7:30	Combat Arms Range		M9 pistol AFQC	7:30 a.m.	Combat Arms range
	Occupational physicals	8-11 a.m.	Navy Clinic		Physical exams (aircrew)	8 a.m.	Navy Clinic
	Newcomers intro	8:30-9:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR		Immunizations	8-11 a.m.	Navy Clinic
	NBCCD refresher	9-11 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322		Physical exams (non aircrew)	8:30 a.m.	Navy Clinic
	Newcomers orientation	9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202		Mask Fit	8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322
	Deployment Mgr Mtg	10-11 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR		HRDC Mtg	9 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
	Qtrly PCIII workers grp	10-11 a.m.	Bldg. 827/Rm 208B		In house 3S0X1 tng	8-9 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304
	NCO Induction Ceremony	11 a.m.-noon	DARB Chapel		Trng Review Panel	9 a.m.	Bldg. 727/700 AS
	Occupational physicals	1 p.m.	Navy Clinic		CAIB meeting	9-9:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2313
	CDC exams	1-3 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304		Yellow Fever shots	9-10 a.m.	Navy Clinic
	NBCCD refresher	1-3 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322		Chiefs Group meeting	9-10 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
	Deployment outprocess	2 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2406		CDC Exams	9 a.m.-noon	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304
	Deployment mgrs mtg	3-4 p.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR		IG Complaints	10 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2105
	SNCO Induction Ceremony	3 p.m.	DARB Club		Enl advisor council mtg	10-10:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
	Retreat (94 MSS)	4 p.m.	Bldg. 922/Front		30-day record review	10-11 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
					Cmdrs working lunch	11:30 a.m.	Club
					CDC Study hall	1 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304
					Immunizations	1-3 p.m.	Navy Clinic
					Flying Safety	1-2 p.m.	Bldg. 727/700 AS
					CCAF Graduation	2:30-3:30 p.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
					Sign out	4 p.m.	Unit